

# Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee

April 3rd 2019

## Minutes

Chairperson Tom Cannon called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Matthews Town Hall with a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Fred Baylor gave the Moment of Reflection

**Committee Members present:** Tom Cannon, Fred Baylor, Charleen Thompson, Jack Santaniello, Larry Stawicki, Peter Chryst, Michael Kipp, James Munoz, Jim Thurman, Theresa Chance and Michael Vento. **Absent:** Janet Perkins

**Guests Welcomed** John Urban (Town Commissioner) and Mark Tofano (Town Citizen)

**Minutes of March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** Minutes were approved.

> **Commissioner Urban reported Town Council had reviewed all advisory committee By-Laws and came up with a number of activities that may apply to us. We should receive these shortly to see if we agree and need to get back to them on it.**

> **The trifold for businesses on importance of hiring veterans was discussed briefly. Michael Vento has developed 10 good reasons for this. He was told of Innovate Graphics who can produce them. Janet Perkins agreed to help last month.**

> **The veteran information Display Cases for Town Hall and Chamber of Commerce are purchased and will be assembled by Jack and Peter and brought to the two sites. Additional material for veterans has been procured from Janene McGee.**

> **Mike Stubbs, Commander of the Purple Hearts Chapter 634, will tell us who will accompany Mike Evans, a Purple Heart recipient from Vietnam War.**

- > Jack gave a treasurer report- We have \$2300.00 in our budget left.
- > Fred Baylor will discuss with Phil Mowry that MVAC wants to participate in the breakfast at Mt Moriah Baptist Church. We will contribute \$200 to the Church.
- > Veteran of the Year work continues. James Munoz has six avenues to work with in addition with Town itself who have identified three people who meet the criteria. He will be checking with Maureen Keith as Town liaison for it. The avenues are non-profits, ToM businesses, MVAC, Post 235 and the local newspapers. The local Purple Heart organization has been also asked to search for a good candidate. A question arose about how to vet them without exposing key information on DD-214. Target date to get to about three candidates is last day of August. We will provide our recommendation to the Mayor following MVAC meeting in September. The award will be at Town Council meeting before Veterans Day in November. We should contact Town PIO, Maureen Keith, on Vet of Year news release approval.
- > The Waxhaw monument display of bricks with names was raised. Would Town be interested in that concept for perhaps Stumptown Park? We need to discuss this concept further. Corry King is Town contact. Michael Vento will look at the brick concept at Waxhaw and give a possible plan.
- > There was brief discussion about a memorial at Baucom Park or elsewhere in November. Or design a special flag honoring veterans but without names. Peter Chryst will do a concept. Theresa Chance will look at costs of flags from local vendor Town uses.

**This concluded the meeting and meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM**

Submitted by:

Tom Cannon